

## HSTC Bulletin

Journal of the History of Canadian Science, Technology and Medicine  
Revue d'histoire des sciences, des techniques et de la médecine au Canada

hstc  
bulletin

## HSTC Newsletter

## Bulletin d'information HSTC

Volume 5, numéro 2 (18), mai 1981

URI : <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/800110ar>

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.7202/800110ar>

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Éditeur(s)

HSTC Publications

ISSN

0228-0086 (imprimé)

1918-7742 (numérique)

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Citer ce document

(1981). *HSTC Newsletter*. *HSTC Bulletin*, 5(2), 166–170.  
<https://doi.org/10.7202/800110ar>

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## BULLETIN D'INFORMATION HSTC NEWSLETTER

### SECOND KINGSTON CONFERENCE

The second Kingston Conference, Critical Issues in the History of Canadian Science, Technology and Medicine, will be held on 6-8 November 1981 at the Donald Gordon Centre of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. It will mark the first meeting of the new Canadian Science and Technology Historical Association/Association pour l'histoire de la science et de la technologie au Canada. The programme is nearly complete and will include invited paper sessions on Canadian scientific institutions, transport history, public health, the 'selling' of science to Canadians, technology in urban settings, and interpretation problems in science and technology museums. In addition, informal workshops on research in Canadian technological and medical history, social science techniques in history of science, and the presentation of technology in museums will be featured. Other special events include addresses by Nathan Reingold of the Smithsonian Institution and by Pierre Berton, historian and author.

Work in progress sessions in the history of Canadian science, technology and medicine are scheduled and are open to anyone wishing to participate. Those interested in presenting fifteen-minute reports on current research should contact Dr A. W. Tickner, Senior Archival Officer, National Research Council, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0R6, before 30 September.

Registration bulletins will be distributed towards the end of June; if you do not receive one and wish further information, write to Dr Tickner. All those interested in the discipline are welcome. Registration fees will be \$15 for students, \$25 for CSTHA/AHSTC members, and \$35 for non-members. All categories will be \$5 more in person. Accommodation space at the Donald Gordon Centre is limited and early pre-registration is advised.

### FEDERATION OF CANADIAN LEARNED SOCIETIES

In 1979, in response to problems arising in the financing of society administration and the general weakness of regional activities of historians and philosophers of science, mathematics and medicine, Dr G. R. Paterson, then president of the Canadian Society of History and Philosophy of Science (CSHPS), convinced the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to fund a meeting of similar groups with a view to federation. Ottawa meetings in January 1980 and January 1981 resolved most of the issues and a constitution was drafted and circulated. Those societies which, in principle, approved of the idea for a loose federation included CSHPS, the Canadian Society for History of Medicine (CSHM), the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of

Mathematics (CSHPM), and the Canadian Science and Technology Historical Association (CSTHA/AHSTC).

At the Halifax meetings of the Learned Societies in June 1981 both CSHPS and CSHM ratified a federation constitution. The CSHPM is to put the matter to a mail ballot, and the CSTHA/AHSTC will discuss the matter at its November meeting. The federation (it has no official name yet) could potentially number some 500 and the administration of separate groups will be centralized. Joint planning of Learned Societies meetings will be enhanced and, of particular interest to historians of Canadian science, technology and medicine, regional conferences, especially in the Atlantic and prairie provinces, will be easier to organize.

#### ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA TO CELEBRATE

#### BRITISH ASSOCIATION SESQUICENTENNIAL

The British Association for the Advancement of Science first met at York in 1831; to commemorate the 150th anniversary of that event, the Royal Society of Canada, with financial assistance of SSHRCC, will stage a one-day symposium at York during the British Association meetings on 3 September 1981. Organized by Prof Trevor Levere of the University of Toronto, the symposium will deal with Canada's links with the British Association. Participants and their topics include: Dr William Swinton (Toronto), 'The British Association and the Nationality of Knowledge;' Dr Vittorio de Vecchi, 'The British Association and the Profession of Scientist in Canada;' Ms Ann Hopper, 'Is Canada in the Provinces? The Reassessment of 1881;' Prof Susan Sheets-Pyenson (Concordia), 'Science, Empire and J.W. Dawson: Canadian, British and American Relations in the 1870s and 1880s;' Prof Richard Jarrell (York), 'British Scientific Institutions and Canadian Science: Rhetoric and Reality;' Bruce Sinclair (Toronto), 'The Coming of Age in Canada: The British Association's 1897 Toronto Meeting;' and Trevor Levere, 'The British Association Goes West.' Profs Morris Zaslow (Western Ontario) and Carl Berger (Toronto) will be commentators. All those planning to attend the British Association meetings will be welcome to participate in the symposium.

#### MELBOURNE CONFERENCE ON COLONIAL SCIENCE

From 25-29 May 1981, the University of Melbourne hosted a conference on 'Scientific Colonialism 1800-1930: A Cross-Cultural Comparison.' Organized by Prof Roderick Home of Melbourne for the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Organisation and Nathan Reingold of the Smithsonian Institution for the US National Science Foundation, the meeting brought together nineteen scholars from the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, UK, and Papua-New Guinea to discuss the growth of science in colonial countries. In addition, a number of Australian historians and scientists joined the

discussions. The papers did not themselves deal with cross-cultural comparisons since they tended to be culture-specific, i.e. on Australian, American, New Zealand, Mexican, Canadian and South American colonies. However, theoretical and methodological issues on the structure of colonial science and the explanation of its history were aired and the data from the papers was brought to bear on these issues. For the Canadian scholar, comparative work with Australians would obviously be beneficial since the scientific development of the two countries has had strong parallels. The conference papers, in revised form, are to be published under the direction of Prof Home.

#### DIRECTORY OF HISTORIANS OF AMERICAN SCIENCE

The third number of *News and Views*, the newsletter for historians of American science, edited by Harvard archivist Clark Elliott, has recently appeared. The issue is entirely devoted to a directory of historians of American science and includes a few Canadians. The format is similar to the *HSTC Bulletin's* Directory of Historians/Annuaire des historiens with the addition of lists of publications of those included. Copies are available free (but donations of \$5 or more are welcomed); contact Clark Elliott, Harvard University Archives, Pusey Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

#### CANADIAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION 1982 MEETING

One feature of the 1982 meeting of the CHA, to be held with the Learned Societies in Ottawa, will be one or more sessions on Canadian science. It is hoped that joint sessions will be arranged with CSHPS and CSTHA/AHSTC. Those who are interested in participating in the CHA sessions should contact Prof Ian MacPherson, Department of History, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C.

#### THE MONTREAL-TORONTO PROJECT FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRIALIZATION IN CANADA

A group of scholars from Montréal and Toronto currently doing research in the history of Canadian science and technology met in Toronto on 13 May to discuss the possibilities and the means of support for a large-scale project in the discipline. Attending the meeting were Raymond Duchesne, Philip Enros, Yves Gingras, James Hull, Sandy McRae, Rod Millard, Bruce Sinclair and Suzanne Zeller. It was the group's second meeting; the first being held on 17 March in Toronto at which Richard Jarrell and Trevor Levere were also present.

In general, the participants agreed that an ongoing research project would be a great stimulus to the present state of the history of Canadian science and technology. Such a project would be important for the results of its research, for its bringing into closer touch the efforts of individuals already working or planning to work on related topics, and also for its fostering of interest in the history of science and technology in Canada amongst graduate students who would be employed in the project as research assistants.

The participants, having exchanged research proposals in advance of the meeting, decided that the project would concentrate on aspects of the historical relationship of science and industrialization in Canada. They plan to meet several times in the coming year to co-ordinate their research activities and to develop the project proposal with the goal of applying for a Negotiated Grant from the SSHRC. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact either Raymond Duchesne, Institut d'histoire et socio-politique des sciences, Université de Montréal, C.P. 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, Québec, H3C 3J7, or Philip Enros, Institute for History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1.

Philip Enros  
University of Toronto

#### RECENT PARKS CANADA PUBLICATIONS

Parks Canada, which is responsible for the development and interpretation of historic sites and parks in Canada, has a large staff of historians, archaeologists and other specialists. Publication of the results of their work appears in three main formats: the *Research Bulletin* and *Canadian Historic Sites: Occasional Papers in Archaeology and History* are both publically-distributed journals. A third form, the *Manuscript Report Series/Travaux inédits* is for lengthy, sometimes multi-volume reports. These are not publications *per se* but are distributed to archives and special depositories across Canada and are available for public use. Below are listed some of the recent *Manuscript Reports* of interest to readers of the *HSTC Bulletin*; recent works in the other formats are listed with the Recent Publications in this issue. (MRS = TI)

Barriault, Monique, *Rapport préliminaire sur l'identification des techniques de moulage utilisées aux Forges de St-Maurice, Etude faite à partir des déchets de moulage.*  
TI 330 (1978).

Bédard, Michel, *Utilisation et commémoration du site des Forges du Saint-Maurice (1883-1963).*  
TI 357 (1979).

- Candou, James E., *A Structural and Narrative History of Signal Hill National Historic Park and Area to 1945.*  
MRS 348 (1979).
- Cloutier, Johanne, *Répetoire des produits fabriqués aux Forges du Saint-Maurice.*  
TI 350 (1980).
- DeLottinville, Peter, *A History of the Smiths Falls Lock Stations, 1827-1978.*  
MRS 373 (1979).
- Francis, Daniel, *Towards a History of the Kawartha-Otonabee Sector of the Trent-Severn Waterway.*  
MRS 358 (1980).
- Lambeth, Susan and Susanne Jeune, *A History of Fisgard Lighthouse and the West Coast Lighthouse System to 1920.*  
MRS 356 (1980).
- Lapointe, Camille, *Etude d'un atelier de finition et d'assemblage de poêles et contenants de fonte aux Forges du Saint-Maurice.*  
TI 344 (1979).
- McDonald, R.H., *Transportation in Northern Cape Breton.*  
MRS 363 (1979).
- Morrison, James H., *Wave to Whisper: British Military Communications in Halifax and the Empire, 1780-1880.*  
MRS 338 (1979).
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Seasons, Storms and Time: Meteorological Observations in Halifax in the Nineteenth Century.*  
MRS 338 (1979).
- Proulx, Jean-Pierre, *Histoire des communications et la tour Cabot, St-Jean, Terre-Neuve.*  
TI 334 (1978).
- Richardson, W. George, *Bridges over the Trent-Severn Waterway.*  
MRS 328 (1978).
- Roos, Arnold E., *The S.S. Klondike: A Structural History.*  
MRS 342 (1979).
- Séigny, P.-André, *Le canal Chambly: utilisation commerciale.*  
TI 346 (1978).